

Science & Research Action Team

June 8, 2013 Progress Report

Today's Activities/Discussions:

- **Reflections on Mid-Process Report Out:**
 - **Proposals are workable with other teams**
 - **SAK issue/controversy discussion:**
 - What is the alternative to counting deer?
 - How do we identify a carrying capacity without knowing the deer population? If the recommendation is to move towards grow/maintain/decrease, what is the basis?
 - Need greater connection between field biologists and the public, with a paradigm shift towards developing and using metrics and identifying how/where SAK is useful.
 - Miscommunication between the SAK estimates versus parcel-level perceptions of deer populations.

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Today's Activities/Discussions:

- **Reflections on Mid-Process Report Out:**
 - **SAK issue/controversy discussion continued...**
 - Group discussed the need to consolidate DMU's, de-emphasize use of SAK, manage to grow/maintain/decrease, while developing metrics.
 - **The group agreed to modify proposal language for A.1. to emphasize the need to consider the recommendation with modifications.** *Modification underway by team members and will bring back to the full group in the future for feedback.*

Science & Research Action Team

May 18, 2013 Progress Report

Implementation Action Items proposed or discussed by the Action Team :

- **E.1. Involving the public in data collection produces many benefits.** - Team supported the recommendation.
 - Implementation recommendation:
 - Ensure public involvement is centered on rigorous and standardized methods.
 - Use pilot studies to develop and test public-based data collection methods.
 - Evaluate how other states are using citizen science.
 - Ensure methods are user-friendly while maintaining a high level of competence of volunteers.
 - Partner with local conservation and other outdoor clubs to solicit and organize volunteers.

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May 18, 2013 Progress Report

Implementation Action Items proposed or discussed by the Action Team :

- **E.1. Involving the public in data collection produces many benefits.** - Team supported the recommendation.
- **Rationale:**
 - These steps will increase citizen buy-in.
 - Research projects have been very successful in getting citizens involved.
 - Increased buy-in will make hunters happier, thus reducing conflict with the agency.
 - Increasing credibility of research projects and obtaining better buy-in from hunters, get better buy-in on the results of projects, and could increase desire by the public to fund future studies.

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Implementation Action Items proposed or discussed by the Action Team :

- **G.4. ...The special significance of deer to the Ojibwe people and other factors also must be considered in management of Wisconsin's white-tailed deer resources. This will include strict adherence to all agreements with GLIFWC, the tribes serving as "co-managers" where appropriate.**
 - The team supports the recommendation, as the Voight decision mandates the requirement; however it does not specify 'co-management'.
 - The team recommends the DNR to continue to consult with GLIFWC staff on deer management.